

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00  
HA-05 MCT-01 TRSE-00 /110 W  
-----014686 220815Z /14

O 220749Z APR 78  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0910  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01611

DEPT PASS MOSCOW

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SOCI, UNSC, UNGA, ECOSOC, IT  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTS OF UN BODIES ISSUE STATEMENT OF  
CONCERN ON MORO

REF: USUN 1572 (NOTAL)  
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1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS AMONG US SECURITY  
COUNCIL MEMBERS APRIL 21, SC PRES YOUNG (US)  
CONSULTED WITH GA PRES MOJSOV (YUGOSLAVIA) AND ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC) PRES MILLS (JAMAICA).  
THE THREE PRESIDENTS THEN ISSUED JOINT STATEMENT  
EXPRESSING "CONCERN AND DISMAY" AT THE ABDUCTION OF

MORO AND THE THREATS AGAINST HIS LIFE (TEXT OF STATEMENT SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY.

2. AS USUN WAS CONTINUING ITS BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH SC MEMBERS APRIL 21, (REFTEL), SOVIET AMB TROYANOVSKY INFORMED AMB MCHENRY (IN RESPONSE TO OUR APPROACH APRIL 20) THAT USSR WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO STATEMENT ON MORO CASE BY SC PRES ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL MEMBERS. INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE SCHEDULED FOR 3:30 P.M. IN ORDER THAT, IN LIGHT OF UPCOMING WEEKEND, ANY STATEMENT TO BE MADE COULD BE ISSUED BEFORE END OF DAY.

3. AFTER DRAFT OF SUGGESTED STATEMENT WAS DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF SC CONSULTATIONS, SC PRES YOUNG EXPLAINED BRIEFLY HUMANITARIAN MOTIVES BEHIND THE IDEA OF SUCH STATEMENTS. HE CITED FACT THAT TWO APPEALS HAD BEEN ISSUED BY SYG ON MARCH 16 AND APRIL 17 AND THAT ITALIAN MISSION SUPPORTED IDEA OF STATEMENT BY SC PRES. AFTER NOTING WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DELEGATIONS BILATERALLY, HE INVITED COMMENTS.

4. NIGERIA (HARRIMAN) THOUGHT CONCEPT WAS GOOD BUT SUGGESTED HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OR THIRD COMMITTEE OF GA, RATHER THAN "SUPREME ORGAN" OF UN WHICH DEALS WITH MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS MORE APPROPRIATE BODY TO ISSUE APPEAL. GABON (N'DONG) SAID MORO KIDNAPPING WAS AN ITALIAN DOMESTIC PROBLEM AND PROPOSED APPEAL WAS NOT WITHIN SC'S PURVIEW. SUCH KIDNAPPINGS OCCURRED FREQUENTLY AND IT WOULD BE BAD TO CREATE PRECEDENT.

5. CHINA (CHEN CHU) WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. ALTHOUGH CHINA ALWAYS OPPOSED TERRORIST ACTS, AMB HAD PERSONAL DOUBTS ABOUT SUGGESTED ACTION AND WAS SYMPATHETIC TO VIEWS OF NIGERIA AND GABON.

6. RESPONDING, AMB YOUNG EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SC HAD TAKEN NOTE OF OTHER TRAGIC SITUATIONS INVOLVING THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS AND POINTED OUT ORCHESTRATED USE BEING MADE OF WORLD PRESS INVOLVING A HUMAN LIFE. NEVERTHELESS HE AGREED THERE COULD BE NO STATEMENT WITHOUT CONSENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS. HE POINTED OUT PROBLEM ARISING FROM UNFORTUNATE FACT THAT PRESS, DESPITE OUR EFFORTS TO AVOID IT, HAD LEARNED OF SUBJECT OF THESE PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS AND WOULD WANT TO KNOW RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO DO NOTHING THAT WOULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT FROM THAT WE HAD HOPED TO

ACHIEVE.

7. KUWAIT (BISHARA) AGREED THAT NEGATIVE RESULT WOULD  
ENHANCE DANGER TO MORO'S LIFE. HE THOUGHT SC SHOULD  
NORMALLY DEAL ONLY WITH MATTERS OF GLOBAL CONCERN AND  
ISSUANCE OF STATEMENT IN THIS CASE COULD SET PRECEDENT  
FOR OTHER "PETITIONERS" TO SEEK APPEALS IN OTHER CASES  
ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT REACTION  
IF THERE WERE NO RESULT FROM CONSULTATIONS AND DID NOT  
OBJECT TO STATEMENT, ALTHOUGH HE BELIEVED THERE SHOULD  
BE NO "APPEAL" FOR MORO'S RELEASE: "I DON'T LIKE TO  
APPEAL TO TERRORISTS."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01611

DEPT PASS MOSCOW

8. UK (RICHARD) POINTED OUT PRECEDENT FOR ACTION BY GA PRES, WHO SOME YEARS AGO HAD ISSUED STATEMENT OF CONCERN FOR PERSONAL SAFETY OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE. HE TOO WAS CONCERNED AT LEAVING CONSULTATIONS WITHOUT RESULT AND SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE TO ORIGINAL PROPOSAL: SC PRES IN PERSONAL CAPACITY COULD CONSULT WITH GA PRES  
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ON POSSIBILITY OF THEIR ISSUING JOINT APPEAL IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITIES. FRG (VON WECHMAR), FRANCE (LEPRETTE) AND CANADA (BARTON) SUPPORTED UK SUGGESTION. VON WECHMAR SAID HE WOULD PREFER EXPRESSION OF CONCERN AND DISMAY INSTEAD OF AN "APPEAL". BARTON AGREED THAT ONE SHOULD NOT "APPEAL TO THUGS" BUT SHOULD SPEAK OF CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM AND SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS. VON WECHMAR SUGGESTED ITALIAN AMB AND OTHER SC REPS MIGHT ACCOMPANY SC PRES WHEN HE CONSULTED GA PRES (BUT THIS SUGGESTION WAS NEVER TAKEN UP OR COMMENTED UPON BY OTHERS.)

9. INDIA (JAIPAL) POINTED OUT THAT UN HAS EXPRESSED ITSELF AGAINST TAKING OF HOSTAGES, SO THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH A UN BODY EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT SUCH MATTER. HE SUGGESTED THAT SC, GA AND ECOSOC PRESIDENTS MIGHT ALL JOIN IN STATEMENT. HE WAS ALSO AGAINST AN "APPEAL" BUT THOUGHT ONE COULD SPEAK OF "HOPE" FOR RELEASE. USSR (TROYANOVSKY), BOLIVIA (FUENTE IBANEZ) AND VENEZUELA (CARPIO-CASTILLO) ALL BRIEFLY SUPPORTED THE UK PROPOSAL, WITH LATTER SECONDING SUGGESTION ON INCLUDING ECOSOC PRES AS WELL.

10. AMB N'DONG WAS LOATHE TO GO AGAINST EMERGING CONSENSUS BUT EXPRESSED VIEW THAT PRISONERS FROM SMALL AFRICAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES HELD BY OTHERS, SUCH AS ISRAEL, DID NOT AROUSE SAME CONCERN AS DID CASE OF PERSON IN DEVELOPED WESTERN COUNTRY. YOUNG COULD NOT AGREE AND THOUGHT SC HAD BEEN WILLING TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY IN PAST AND HAD BEEN SHOWING GROWING SENSITIVITY TO PROBLEMS INVOLVING HUMAN LIVES. RICHARD NOTED THAT DISTINCTION BETWEEN THIS CASE AND THE AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS TO WHICH GABON HAD ALLUDED WAS FACT THAT LATTER WERE ISSUES WITH WHICH ORGANS OF UN WERE SEIZED  
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AND WHICH WERE CONSIDERED REGULARLY. THIS WAS NOT TRUE IN CASE SUCH AS ONE UNDER DISCUSSION; IT WAS NOT A QUESTION OF GREATER HUMANITARIAN CONCERN ABOUT ONE OVER

THE OTHER.

11. AFTER CHINA HAD REITERATED ITS UNWILLINGNESS TO CONCUR IN ANY "DECISION" OR CONSENSUS, IT WAS AGREED THAT SC PRES, HAVING CONSULTED WITH MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, WOULD CONSULT GA AND ECOSOC PRESIDENTS ON POSSIBILITY OF ISSUANCE OF JOINT STATEMENT. ALL AGREED THEY WOULD SAY NOTHING TO PRESS ABOUT THE SESSION BEYOND FACT THAT SC PRES, HAVING CONSULTED WITH THEM, WAS NOW GOING TO CONSULT OTHER TWO PRESIDENTS.

12. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SC CONSULTATIONS, YOUNG BRIEFED ITALIAN AMB VINCI ON HIS PLANS AND ARRANGED TO TALK WITH GA PRES MOJSOV IN LATTER'S OFFICE ADJACENT TO GA HALL WHERE MOJSOV WAS PRESIDING OVER 8TH SPECIAL SESSION. THE TWO AGREED ON TEXT OF STATEMENT (SEPTTEL) AND AS SOON AS AMB MILLS, PRES OF ECOSOC, WAS AVAILABLE THEY EXPLAINED DEVELOPMENTS TO HIM AND QUICKLY OBTAINED HIS AGREEMENT TO JOINT STATEMENT. THREE THEN MET PRESS IN UN BRIEFING ROOM WHERE MILLS READ STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF ALL THREE. MOJSOV ADDED PERSONAL COMMENT (ALSO INCLUDED SEPTTEL) REFERRING TO CONCERN EXPRESSED TO HIM BY MANY DELEGATIONS WHO RECALLED UN APPEARANCES OF MORO, AND PARTICULAR INTEREST OF YUGOSLAVIA AS NEIGHBORING COUNTRY TO ITALY. YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LOBBYING, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMUNIQUE, PRISONERS RELEASE  
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**Draft Date:** 22 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PORG, SOCI, IT, UNSC, UNGA, ECOSOC, (MORO, ALDO)  
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